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#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MARYLAND **Greenbelt Division**

YOUNG OK PARK

**COMPLAINT** 

Plaintiff,

v.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

R&R PROFESSIONAL RECOVERY, INC.

Defendant

### COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION **PRACTICES ACT**

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 1. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d), and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 for pendent state law claims.
- 2. This action arises out of Defendant's violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. ("FDCPA") in its illegal efforts to collect a consumer debt from Plaintiff.
- 3. Venue is proper in this District because the acts and transactions occurred here, Plaintiff resides here, and Defendant transacts business here

#### **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiff is a natural person who resides in Howard County, Maryland, and is a "consumer" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3) and a person with standing to bring a claim under the FDCPA by virtue of being directly affected by a violation of the Act.
- 5. Defendant R & R Professional Recovery, Inc. ("R & R") is a debt collection company with its principal place of business located at 1498 Reisterstown Rd, Baltimore, MD 21208. Defendant R & R is a debt collector as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(6) in that it company collecting a consumer debt allegedly owed by Plaintiff

#### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

6. In 2011, Plaintiff incurred a medical debt with American Radiology Associates, Inc. This was a consumer debt as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5) as it was incurred for a personal, family or household purpose.

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- 7. On August 15, 2011, the Plaintiff sought protection from her creditors by filing a joint voluntary Chapter 7 bankruptcy petition in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maryland docketed as Case Number 11-26711.
- 8. In the schedules filed with the petition in this case and on the master mailing matrix filed with the Clerk of this Court, an unsecured debt was listed in favor of "American Radiology Associates" in the amount of \$777.00. A copy of the filed Schedule F is attached as **Exhibit A**.
- 9. On or about August 18, 2011, the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court certified that it had sent out notice of Plaintiff's bankruptcy to all creditors as well as the Bankruptcy Noticing Center, AACER, and BANKO. A copy of this certification is attached as **Exhibit B**.
- 12. On or about August 22, 2011, after failing to do any due diligence on whether Plaintiff filed a bankruptcy, Defendant sent a letter to Plaintiff in an attempt to collect on the debt owed to American Radiology Associates
- 13. A copy of this letter is attached as **Exhibit C.** This letter was a communication, as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

# COUNT I. VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq.

- 14. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 15. This Court in *Awah v. Donaty*, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 103077 (D. Md. Nov. 4, 2009) stated that in order for Plaintiff to make a successful claim under the FDCPA, he/she must show that
  - (1) The plaintiff has been the object of collection activity arising from consumer debt;
  - (2) The defendant is a debtor collector as defined by the FDCPA; and
  - (3) The defendant has engaged in an act or omission prohibited by the FDCPA.
  - 16. Here, all elements are present, satisfied, and cannot be disputed.
- 17. The Honorable Judge Easterbrook wrote in *Randolph v. IMBS Inc. et al*, 368 F.3d 726 (7th Cir. 2004) that, "A demand or immediate payment while a debtor is in bankruptcy or after the debt's discharge) is 'false' in the sense that it asserts that money is due, although, because of the automatic stay (11 U.S.C. § 362) or the discharge injunction (11 U.S.C. § 524), it is not."
- 18. Therefore Defendant's aforementioned attempt to collect on a debt that Plaintiff included in her bankruptcy was a false statement to the Plaintiff, in direct violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 1692(e), e(2)(a), e(10).
- 19. Plaintiff had filed bankruptcy specifically to gain relief from her creditors and to stop these kinds of collection efforts.

## Case 1:11-cv-02439-MJG Document 1 Filed 08/30/11 Page 3 of 3

1	20. As a result of Defendant's violations of the FDCPA, Plaintiff is entitled to statutory
	damages in an amount up to \$1,000.00 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(2)(A); and, reasonable
2	attorney's fees and costs pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(3), from each Defendant herein.
3	WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that judgment be entered against each Defendant:
4	a) For an award of statutory damages of \$1,000.00 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. \$1692k(a)(2)(A)
5	against the Defendant and for Plaintiff;
6	b) For an award of costs of litigation and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C.
	1692k(a)(3) against the Defendant and for Plaintiff; and
7	c) For such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.
8	TRIAL BY JURY
9	21. Plaintiff is entitled to and hereby respectfully demands a trial by jury on all issues so
10	triable. US Const. amend. 7. Fed.R.Civ.P. 38.
11	and the constitution of th
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13	Respectfully submitted this 30 <sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011;
	YOUNG OK PARK
14	D.v.
15	By: /s/
16	Robinson S. Rowe, Bar No. 27752 Attorney for the Plaintiff
17	Rowe Barnett, PLLC
18	5906 Hubbard Dr., Suite 4-A Rockville, MD 20852
19	TEL: 301-770-4710 / FAX: 301-770-4711
	rrowe@rowepllc.com
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